



PURIM BOOKS at Beth Sholom



Adelson, Leone. *The Mystery Bear: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Naomi Howland (Clarion Books, 2004; ISBN: 0-618-33725-3). When he awakens from hibernation, Little Bear's hunger leads him to a house where a Purim celebration is just beginning, and the celebrants mistake him for a costumed guest.

Belsky, Judith Benoliel. *Tova and Esty's Purim Surprise*. Illustrated by Bina Gewirtz (Feldheim, 1981; ISBN: 0-87306-248-5). Cousins Tova and Esty celebrate Purim with costumes, hearing megillah and delivering shalach manos, but first Esty helps Tova clean up her room.

Chaikin, Miriam. *Esther*. Illustrated by Vera Rosenberry (JPS, 1987; ISBN 0-8276-0272-3). Retells of how Esther became Queen of Persia and used her influence to stop the evil Haman from killing all the Jews.

Chaikin, Miriam. *Make Noise, Make Merry: The Story and Meaning of Purim*. Illustrated by DEMI (Clarion Books, 1983; ISBN 0-89919-424-9). Retells the biblical story of the rescue of the Persian Jews from Haman's plot to destroy them. Explains the Purim symbols and tells how the feast is celebrated.

Cohen, Barbara. *Here Come the Purim Players!* Illustrated by Shoshana Mekibel (UAHC Press, 1984; ISBN: 9—874-0645-7). A Purim play is presented by the residents of the old Prague ghetto.

Davis, Linda. *A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Y.E. Taub (Feldheim, 1988; ISBN: 0-87306-454-2). A father reads the story of Purim, in rhyme, as his children anticipate the coming holiday.

Feder, Harriet K. *It Happened in Shushan: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Rosalyn Schanzer (Kar-Ben, 1988; ISBN: 0-930494-75-X). Rebus-like picture and word narration with repetitive questions make this a good Purim story for young readers

Fishman, Cathy Goldberg. *On Purim*. Illustrated by Melanie W. Hall (Athenum, 2000; ISBN: 0-689-82392-4). Uses the story of a family's preparations for the Jewish holiday of Purim to explain the traditions connected with this celebration.

Gelman, Rita Golden. *Queen Esther Saves Her People*. Illustrated by Frane Lessac (Scholastic 1998, ISBN: 0-590-47025-6). Retells the story of how a beautiful Jewish girl became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from death at the hands of the evil Haman.

Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Cakes and Miracels: A Purim Tale*. Illustrated by Erika Weihs (Viking, 1991; ISBN: 0-670-83047-X). "Young blind Hershel find that he has special gifts he can use to help his mother make cookies for Purim."

Gettinger, Shifrah. *A Very Special Gift*. Illustrated by Tova Leff (Hachai, 1993; ISBN: 0-922613-52-4). Gali works hard to get her mother a special plate for the hamantashen.

Gerstein, Mordicai. *Queen Esther the Morning Star* (Simon & Schuster, 2000; ISBN: 0-689-81372-4). Retells the story of how a beautiful Jewish girl became the Queen of Persia and saved her people from death at the hands of the evil Haman.

Geller, Beverly Mach. *The Mitzvah Girl* (Gefen Books, 2000; ISBN: 965-229-203-6). Shira participates in all the mitzvot of Purim.

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Gottlieb, Yaffa Leba. *The Shushan Chronicle: The Story of Purim Based on the Midrash* (Hachai, 1991; ISBN: 0-922613-39-7). The story of Purim told in short chapters and based on midrashim, which add detail and context to the account in the megillah.

Halpern, Chaiky. *The Hamentash that Ran Away* (Feldheim, 1981; ISBN: 0-87306-250-7). King Rimpu of the kingdom of Miroop likes things to be big. When the cooks make a giant hamantashen, he runs away and teaches the king a valuable lesson.

Hoffman, Amalia. *Purim Goodies*. (Gefen Publishing, 2007; ISBN: 978-9652293893). Purim Goodies is a beautifully illustrated children's book that tells about the many assorted ingredients related to the Purim Holiday and the importance of giving. Seasoned with humor, sprinkled with Yiddish words, sweetened with luscious illustrations and a delicious hamantaschen recipe, this book is sure to whet your appetite.

Nerlove, Miriam. *Purim* (Albert Whitman, 1992). A young boy becomes caught up in the excitement of the Purim celebration as the rabbi relates the tale of the courageous Queen Esther and the evil Haman.

Rouss, Sylvia A. *Sammy Spider's First Purim*. Illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahn (Kar-ben, 1999; ISBN: 1-58013-062-3). A young spider wants to join in as the Shapiro family celebrates Purim and make all kinds of noises.

Schram, Peninnah. *The Purim Costume*. Illustrated by Tammy L. Keiser (URJ, 2001; 0-8074-0874-3). When Rebecca chooses a new Purim costume, she learn about the importance of Vashti to the events of the holiday.

Silberman, Shoshana. *The Whole Megillah (Almost)*. Pictures by Katherine Kahn (Kar-Ben, 1990: ISBN: 0-929371-23-2). Includes abbreviated chapter summaries of the Book of Esther, commntaries, a play script, and music and costume ideas.

Silverman, Maida. *Festival of Esther*. Illustrated by Carolyn S. Ewing (Simon & Schuster, 1989; ISBN: 0-671-67663-6). Explains the history and meaning of Purim and includes a traditional holiday song and a recipe for hamantashen.

Simon, Norma. *Happy Purim Night*. Illustrations by Ayala Gordon (United Synagogue, 1959). Ruth and David make hamantashen, hear the megillah, twirl groggers, dress up in costumes, and enjoy the holiday with their family.

Simpson, Lesley. *The Purim Surprise*. Illustrated by Peter Church. (Kar-Ben, 2004. ISBN: 1-58013-090-9). Naomi and her mother have moved to a new town right before Purim and Naomi's birthday. She reluctantly agrees to help deliver the Mishloach Manot to strangers. But Naomi's mother has tucked a secret invitation into them, so everyone comes to their new home for a birthday and Purim party. The book illustrates the true meaning of the holiday as well as a child's concerns about moving and having her birthday remembered.

Topek, Susan Remick. *A Costume for Noah: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Sally Springer (Kar-Ben, 1995; ISBN: 0-929371-90-9). Noah's classmates are busy making costumes for the Purim Parage, but he is preoccupied with the imminent arrival of a new baby.

Wolkstein, Diane. *Esther's Story*. Illustrated by Juan Wijngarrd (Morrow Junior Books, 1996; ISBN: 0-688-12127-6). Beautiful illustrations accompany the story of Purim as told by Esther.

Zalben, Jane Breskin. *Goldie's Purim* (Henry Holt, 1991; ISBN: 0-8050-1227-3). Although Goldie is scared at first, she overcomes her stage fright to play Queen Esther in the synagogue's celebration of Purim.

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Zolkower, Edie Stoltz. *When It's Purim*. Illustrated by Barb Bjornson. (Kar-Ben, 2009; ISBN: 978-08225-89471). Introduce toddlers to a beloved Purim tradition with sprightly rhyme and brightly colored illustrations depicting animals making hamantaschen. The new holiday board book will delight preschoolers and their parents and teachers with its whimsical animal illustrations. (0-4)

Zucker, Jonny. *It's Party Time: A Purim Story*. Illustrated by Jan Barger Cohen (Barrons, 2003; ISBN: 0-7641-2268-1). Very cute summary of Purim customs and mitzvot for young readers.

Zwerin, Raymond A and Marcus, Audrey Friedman. *A Purim Album*. Illustrated by Marlene Lobell Ruthen (UAHC, 1981). Robin describes the pictures taken during the Purim play and the lessons she learned.

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